

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 02123 211433Z

43

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /098 W

----- 015850

R 211400Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8681

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USUN NEW YORK 454

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUW2123

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOGMD PR, UN, CZ

SSLJECT: PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: SOFIA 1732

1. WHILE WE WERE HAPPY AT THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE VOTE ON PUERTO RICO, WE CANNOT PROFESS SURPRISE THAT THE CZECHOSLOVAKS, BULGARIANS AND THE SOVIETS STOOD BY CUBA. IN THE ASSUMPTION THAT THERE WILL BE OTHER INSTANCES OF CONFRONTATION AT THE UN IN THE NEAR FUTURE, WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE TWO POINTS.

2. FIRST, WE SUBSCRIBE FULLY TO AMBASSADOR HERZ'S VIEWS (LAST TWO PARAGRAPHS REFTEL). IT WAS QUITE CLEAR FROM WHAT KORNIYENKO TOLD AMBASSADOR STOESEL IN MOSCOW HOW THE SOVIETS, BULGARIANS AND CZECHO-SLOVAKS WOULD VOTE, FOR THIS IS NOT THE KIND OF ISSUE (IF THEY EXIST) WHERE ONE COULD HOPE FOR PRAGUE AND SOFIA TO SPLIT FROM MOSCOW. IT MAY BE GOOD DIPLOMACY TO BE POLITER TO THE RUSSIANS THAN WE ARE TO THEIR CLIENTS, BUT WE HOPE THE DEPARTMENT-

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PAGE 02 PRAGUE 02123 211433Z

MENT WILL NOT INSTRUCT US TO DO SO IN THE EXPECT-

TATION THAT STRONGER THREATS WILL HAVE AN EFFECT
ON THE CLIENTS ABSENT THE SAME THREATS IN MOSCOW.

3. SECOND, WE DO BELIEVE THAT CONSULTATIONS WITH
EASTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS ON WHOLE RANGES OF
US ISSUES CAN BE USEFUL; THERE IS A GROWING NUMBER
OF THESE ISSUES WHERE OUR INTERESTS AND THOSE
OF THE COMMUNIST STATES CONVERGE, AND EVEN COIN-
CIDE. OUR BELIEF, HOWEVER, IS THAT THERE ARE
INSTANCES WHERE IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO PERSUADE
THE USSR AND ITS CLIENTS TO VOTE WITH US (AND WE
FEEL THAT THE CUBAN RESOLUTION ON PUERTO RICO WAS
SUCH A CASE). EVEN IN THESE SITUATIONS, REPRESENTATIONS
MAY BE USEFUL TO UNDERLINE THE GREAT IMPORTANCE
WE ATTACH TO A SPECIFIC ISSUE, ALTHOUGH
THE SHAPE THE ISRAELI EXPULSION ISSUE MAY TAKE IS
STILL CLOUDY, WE BELIEVE AMBASSADOR SHERER'S REPRESENTATIONS
ON THAT ISSUE HERE, FOR EXAMPLE, WERE
CERTAINLY WORTHWHILE.) BUT IF WE ARE GOING TO WARN
OF HARMFUL EFFECTS ON BILATERAL RELATIONS, KNOWING
FULL WELL THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF CHANGING A VOTE
IS MINIMAL OR NON-EXISTENT, WE MAY FIND OURSELVES
OBLIGED TO TAKE STEPS THAT ARE NOT IN THE LARGER
NATIONAL INTEREST.
PERRY

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